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Kennedy 1gO

LONDON AP - U.S. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy hedged when asked by a London newspaper if he was a candidate for President.

The Massachusetts Democrat replied that his first responsibility is to his family, Daily Mirror correspondent John Pilger reported today from Washington.

"I have to think of what would happen to all of them if something happened to me," Kennedy said. "We have all suffered too much in the past to go through it all again," he added, referring to the assassination of two of his brothers and the death of his other brother during World War II.

Asked if he feared assassination, Kennedy said:

"Yes. If I didn't think there was someone out there . . . someone just living to end it all . . . Well, I'd be a fool to ignore the possibility. But at the same time I can't become obsessed with it or I'll lose my opportunity for effectiveness . . .

"There are too many voiceless people in this country and I am one who has the privilege of a voice. I have to direct all my energy into that voice, not into my fears . . . I just have to try all the time and keep that out of my mind."

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